

Minutes of F&G meeting, 7.30, Tuesday 15 Nov 2022 on zoom

Present : Gwenda, Trish, Anne, Peter, Julie S, Lesley, Marcia, Duncan, Julie G (chair)

Apologies : Martin, Toni

Welcome everyone, intro selves as Gwenda new to the group.

1. Decisions re 2023 tattie event :	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - majority of group (8 incl Martin to 2) in favour of returning to in person event, Tattie Day at NK Hall.. For social/ community building benefits after last two years of Covid/ lockdowns etc, and for funding TBI core activities reasons (tattie day generates considerably more income than tattie host approach). - Hall is booked for Tattie Day, Sat 4 March 2023 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Also preference of group to make at least teas/coffees and cake available, and soup if possible, available. Lesley to lead on this - soup making volunteers : Gwenda, Marcia, Julie S, Lesley. Offer by Duncan of a freezer to store soup in prep for the day. 	Lesley, Gwenda, Julie S, Marcia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantity of tatties to order - less than last Tattie Day where there were 16 sacks left over. Settled on 50 with additional few double ups of favourite varieties. Trish to oversee order. Also there might be a few small bags from local farmers ? Peter to check his farmer, Trish to check hers and discuss with Maggie W. - Agreed Soirbheas and Forres to continue ordering their own tatties as they have been doing for last two years. 	Trish Peter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charge for tatties...20p per tuber ? (To cover tattie increase cost by 25%) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Storage/ delivery: ideally if possible James Dingwall to deliver on the day as previously. Trish to contact and discuss. - Back up plan - Duncan's garage could store delivery and early morning volunteers to collect and transport to Hall on the morning. 	Trish Possibly Duncan, others
<p>Follow up meeting for those able/ interested to develop more detailed action plan for Tattie Day, 2pm Friday 2 Dec at Lesley's.</p>	All interested/ able to attend
<p>2. Apple press - update from Duncan Good apple crops led to good usage, 15 private hires, 5 markets, 1 school. At least 500 litres of juice. This a rough estimate - Duncan plans to do a more accurate survey next year. Income £210 plus market income. Trailer was serviced, plus tyres, at cost of £200. Press may need some attention, is now 10+ years old, so may possibly need replacing at some point. The 'chomper' before the juicer probably. We just need to bear this in mind.</p>	
<p>3. Our Local Larder - update from Julie S. Julie provided informative report ahead of the meeting. Local Larder website well used, highest number of searches re fish and veg boxes. Some business casualties of Covid experience, but also a few new additions to the website. Julie has done 5 years on the role, and intends/would like to stand down. Happy to do 3 months more while a replacement is sought. She'll make up a JD to give an overview of what would be involved. Thanks to Julie for all her hard work for these years, getting the website off the ground and running so well.</p>	Anyone interested in the role - to find out more, contact Julie S.

4. Grow North update - Julie G

Didn't really take off this year, 4 workshops proposed, 1 took place with 4 attendees, 1 cancelled only 1 applicant and the others cancelled due to JG ill health principally, but interest was also minimal. Need to re look at the format, consider other ideas eg AT suggestion of series of maybe less formal sessions based in one locality to attract local folk, encourage non growers to grow, make it easy for them to attend. Watch this space !

5 Seed swap - Lesley

If you have seeds to share easiest approach for Lesley would be to give her the seed and she can packet them up. But she can give you packets if you'd prefer. Has received seed as usually from Macdonalds Hardware, but largely flower seed rather than veg. Martin also proposing as usual to send for seed from the Heritage Seed Library. Seeds will go round markets prior to there being a seed stall at Tattie Day.

AoB

Julie G happy to carry on for the foreseeable future as F&G Chair, but in longer term would like to hand over to someone else. She feels she is 'running out of steam' but also really it is good practice is that a group chair role should shift periodically.

Anyone interested ? Not too onerous, and it's a good group 😊👍

Contact Lesley
as applicable